

## National Organization—1927

# Colored Postal Employees Meet In July

## Likelihood That Official Organ Will Be Moved To Washington

Washington, May 30.—Although all colored employees of the Post Office Department are eligible, less than 15 per cent of them are members of the National Alliance of Postal Employees, which is to hold its biennial convention in Memphis, July 13th. The Alliance offers fraternal insurance, a sick benefit, and interests itself generally in the protection, in the service of postal employees.

Due to the fact that all other national postal groups issue their publications in this city where important information pertaining to the service is always available, a strong and growing sentiment favors Washington as permanent headquarters of the organization.

At least, an effort will be made to move the "Postal Alliance," the official organ of the Association, to this city from Kansas City, Mo., where it is now published to the distinct disadvantage, it is claimed, of the members in respect to authentic news concerning departmental affairs.

Col. Joseph M. Trigg, a veteran post office clerk and newspaperman, will probably be drafted into service in the event Washington is selected as the place of publication of the "Postal Alliance."

## Nat'l. Federation of P. O. Clerks Endorse Pullman Porters' Union

Indianapolis, Ind.—At the annual convention of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks, held here September 5 to 9, a resolution was introduced by Robert Evans, delegate from Jersey City, endorsing the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. This resolution was unanimously adopted by the convention.

Mr. Evans, who introduced the resolution, was the only delegate from the Jersey City local, and was one of four colored delegates

attending the convention. Two of the others represented Local 148 of Washington, D. C., and the other represented Cleveland. The Washington representatives were Messrs. M. S. Fish and Victor C. Johnson. Frank Young was the man from Cleveland.

Every courtesy was extended the colored delegates and a fine spirit of cooperation was exhibited.

## MANY STATES

## REPRESENTED

## AT FOOD MEET

## Cooks, Waiters Rally in Harrisburg

Harrisburg, Pa., Sept. 9.—Every state in the Union, with the exception of Washington and Oregon, was represented at the second annual convention of the National Association of Colored Waiters and Hotel Employees, which was in session here last week. The organization, which has a membership of over thirty-five hundred, was represented by 21 delegates. H. E. Jackson had traveled from Oakland, Calif., to represent his state.

The Majestic theater was crowded to its fullest capacity when the association threw open its session to the public with Dr. Charles Cramp-ton acting as master of ceremonies. Short addresses were made by E. E. Beldleman, former lieutenant-governor of the state of Pennsylvania; Mayor Hoverter; Daniel Casey, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce; Albert G. Barnett, Chicago, national organizer; Rev. J. C. Austin, Chicago; and W. Alonzo Locke, head waiter at the Peabody hotel, Memphis, Tenn., for 25 years, and president of the People's band.

C. H. Brown, president, gave a history of the association. Mr. Barnett explained that the organization does not enter the labor phase other than to co-operate with employers by giving efficient service and obtaining compensation for this effort. Mr. Locke urged the members to save 10 per cent of their earnings, buy their homes, and do social and uplift work in the community. From the reports made by the various committees and the short talk given by each delegate, it was clearly demonstrated that the members of the association regard their work as a serious and dignified profession from the thorough manner in which they discussed the problems incident to the service

which they render. Intelligent comment demonstrated clearly the thought which the men have given to their work and the betterment of their profession.

An election was held Friday morning and the following officers were chosen to represent the association: C. H. Brown, Chicago, president; Morris A. Cowan, Harrisburg, Pa., first vice president; Albert G. Barnett, Chicago, second vice president; W. Alonzo Locke, Memphis, fourth vice president; C. S. Victoria, St. Louis, secretary; C. S. Carr, Chicago, recording secretary; Samuel Blivens, Birmingham, treasurer, and W. Wrightson, Louisville, director of the budget.

The grand inaugural ball which closed the session Friday night was one of the swellest affairs ever given here.

## WAITERS CLOSE ANNUAL CONVENTION IN PENN.

Harrisburg, Pa., Sept. 6.—(By A. N. P.)—The National Association of Colored Waiters and Hotel Employees closed its second annual session here Friday night with the selection of Cleveland, Ohio, as the next place of meeting and the election of officers, among whom were Chylow H. Brown, Chicago, president; 1st vice-president, Morris A. Cowan, Harrisburg, Pa.; 2nd vice-president, Albert G. Barnett, Chicago, Ill.; 3rd vice-president, Ralph Rowland, Cleveland, Ohio; 4th vice-president, W. Alonzo Locke, Memphis, Tenn.; secretary, C. S. Victoria, St. Louis, Mo.; recording secretary, C. Sullivan Carr, Chicago; William Wrightson, director of Budget, Louisville, Ky., and Samuel Blivens, treasurer, Birmingham, Ala.

Delegates from 36 states were present, participating in a session the burden of which was improving the working conditions of the craft and increasing the prestige of the men who deftly swing the towel and tray.

One hundred automobiles and three brass bands were in line when the organization held its parade, a new feature. Pathe's weekly took movies of the event. Tuesday night was Civic Night, addresses being made by Major George Hoverton and ex-Lieutenant Governor E. E. Beldleman, who made the welcome address in behalf of state and city. Responses were made by W. Alonzo Locke of Memphis, Tenn., Albert G. Barnett, Chicago, and Rev. J. C. Austin, pastor of Pilgrim Baptist church, Chicago.

# ATTEMPT TO FORCE COLOR ISSUE FAILS

## Mail Carriers Censure Postal Alliance

El Paso, Texas, Oct. 14.—That an attempt to establish the color line in the National Association of Letter Carriers, that met here recently, was locked has been revealed by the resolutions committee.

A resolution indorsing the Postal Alliance, which is composed of only railway clerks of our Race, asking the members of the carriers' association to become affiliated with it, was denounced by the convention.

P. M. E. Hill, who was a delegate from Yazoo City, Miss., said that he considered it personal when the resolution stated that the high-minded of his Race had recognized the alliance.

R. M. Casey, a delegate from Memphis, Tenn., also scored the effort of some members to inject the color question.

President Gahner (white), prior to calling for a vote on the resolution, said:

"We have never been guilty of any such thing, although I will put the notion."

The motion failed to carry.

## Railway Mail Men Here Next Week

## Making Effort To Enroll The Letter Carriers

## A. W. BRYAN WILL TELL Of the Achievements of the N. A. P. E.

A. W. Bryan, of Atlanta, vice-president of The National Alliance of Postal Employees, will visit this city December 6th and address a meeting of all postal clerks and letter carriers in the city and the surrounding territory in connection with the campaign of that

organization for members. Mr. Bryan will be accompanied by Mr. Samuel A. Hull of Jacksonville, Fla., district president of that section, who will also deliver an address.

The National Alliance of Postal Employees is the national organization composed of all Negroes under Civil Service Rules in the Post Office Department and has had fourteen years of progress and is now active in securing adjudication of grievances and promotions for efficient men of this group in that department of government service. It bears the distinction of being the only organization which has the full recognition of the departmental officials in government circles composed of colored men. There is a beneficiary department, which pays a very liberal disability indemnity as well as a death benefit for an exceptionally small fee as well as a Welfare Department which is maintained at actual cost.

An incident occurred at the recent convention of The National Association of Letter Carriers in El Paso, Tex., in which a resolution was introduced to bar Negroes from membership in that organization. The resolution failed of passage on the floor of the convention, but there are sections of the country where no such resolution is needed as the Negro carrier is not permitted to join the organization; notable among these places is Houston Tex., in which branch the resolution originated and New Orleans, La., with over 250 colored carriers as well as many smaller places in the southern section of the country.

The National Alliance of Postal Employees is a body functioning for the welfare of these men and also has a national woman's auxiliary which offers social as well as business features. In view of the discriminatory principles of the N. A. L. C. a special effort is now being made to enroll Letter Carriers in the N. A. P. E. and Mr. Bryan is well equipped to present all the facts pertaining to this organization in a concise and explicit manner.

All Postal Employees of Savannah vicinity are urgently requested to attend this meeting and hear from Mr. Bryan and Mr. Hull some of the wonderful achievements of the National Alliance of Postal Employees in protecting the Negro employe and in gaining the proper recognition for his services to the Government.



# NATIONAL EQUAL RIGHTS LEAGUE TO MEET OCT. 25

## Washington D. C. Selected As Site Where '28 Fight Will Be Planned

BOSTON, Mass., Oct. 5.—Announcement was made today by the National Headquarters of the National Equal Rights League, 99 Church Street, that the 20th annual meeting of the League will be held in the John Wesley A. M. E. Zion Church, 14th and Corcoran streets, N. W., Washington, D. C., from October 25-28, and is to be a national race mass convention or congress under the League's auspices, for a racial preparation for the pre-election Congress and for the political battle of 1928 as concerns the race's rights.

The convention which is called for a racial get-together whereby a racial consensus of opinion may be secured, a united opinion voiced, united demand made and general program and principles adopted, will have three paramount objectives—abolition of color segregation, determination of the equal rights, issues and principles of action for the forthcoming federal voting, and the formulation of a national signed race petition to be presented as Congress assembles in December.

### Four Day Meet

The four days convention, open to members of the race individually or as delegates of bodies, religious, fraternal, equal rights, literary, civic, etc., or of towns or cities through equal rights citizens committees or public meetings, will have three open sessions daily—morning, afternoon and night. The morning sessions will be devoted to organization business, afternoon to general deliberation and adoption, the night to public expression. The delegate fee is to be \$1.00. All of the race who believe in aggressive assertion of quality of rights are urged to be represented to meet the challenge of whiter America, to assemble in the 10th anniversary year of the entrance of the U. S. into the World Democracy War, with the American Legion segregating their Colored comrades for democracy in Paris on the soldiers' return.

The Federal Petitions Commission of the League, T. H. R. Clarke, 810 F. Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., Chairman, asks the race to contribute funds for the expense of getting signatures, checks to be sent to the treasurer, W. P. Dabney, 420 McAllister Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Rev. George Frazier Miller, of Brook-

lyn, N. Y., is president of the League, Jas. L. Neill, of Washington, recording secretary, W. M. Trotter, of Boston, corresponding secretary, Rev. T. S. Harten, of New York is organizer, and M. W. Spencer, of Washington is treasurer.

## Race Congress Called to Meet in Washington, D. C.

Boston, Mass., Oct. 1927.

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The Convention which is called for a racial get-together whereby a racial consensus of opinion may be secured, prepare for the "Battle of 1928"—4 days Convention at Washington to adopt race petition for Congress—United position on rights and aim—Petition Fund Started.

League asks race to assemble for a racial get-together whereby a racial consensus of opinion may be secured, a united opinion voiced, united demand made and general program and principles adopted, will have three paramount objectives—abolition of color segregation, determination of the equal rights issues and principles of action for the forthcoming federal voting, and the formation of a national signed race petition to be presented as Congress assembles in December.

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JACKSONVILLE, FLA., Times

## SEP 8 1927 Will Investigate Negro Gatherings

A special committee of the South Jacksonville city Council, Councilmen P. G. Caldwell, J. M. Lorimer, Sr., and J. M. Gray, will meet a delegation representing the Universal Negro Improvement Association at 6 o'clock tonight at the city hall for the purpose of deciding whether or not the negroes will be allowed to hold further meetings in South Jacksonville.

A meeting of the association on the night of August 11, in the negro Masonic hall on Kings road, was broken up by South Jacksonville police officers and a warning issued that further gatherings of this kind would not be tolerated. A delegation from the association was given an audience at the council meeting Tuesday night and, after leaving the by-laws and constitution under which the body is said to operate with the special committee, were told the matter would be taken under consideration.

A meeting of a similar group in Jacksonville is said to have been halted by the authorities who held it was of the same type as a gathering held in Chattanooga, Tenn., which incited a riot when the police attempted to disband the participants.

## OPEN WAR ON SEGREGATION AT CAPITAL

### Organizations Plan

## Thorough Fight

Washington, D. C., Nov. 11.—The National Equal Rights league, after holding a four-day convention at the John Wesley church last week, succeeded in effecting a consolidation with the National Race congress, headed by Rev. W. H. Jernagin, and went immediately into action on racial segregation in government departments. Associated with the merged organizations in their efforts were representatives of the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World.

Secretary Hubert Work of the interior department, who, at the instance of Neval Thomas, recently abolished segregation of races in the files division of the pension office, was visited by a committee last Saturday headed by William Monroe Trotter of Boston and Dr. Jernagin with reference to a specific instance of racial segregation in the general land office, the case being that of Gretchen McRay of Colorado Springs, Colo., the home state of Secretary Work.

The McRay case was presented as one of "horizontal segregation," wherein a stenographer, because assigned to work with a small group of clerks in the land office, was thereby denied opportunity ever to rise by promotion above the level to which originally appointed.

### Fight Vertical Segregation

The committee registered its protest also against "vertical segregation" in the land office, through which certain clerks are given promotion, but only through separation of the races.

The committee, composed of Thomas H. R. Clark, Maurice W. Spencer, Dr. J. Harvey Randolph, Neval H. Thomas, Archibald S. Pinch, George A. Parker, Robert J. son and W. M. Trotter, was requested by Secretary Work to file a formal written complaint with him concerning conditions in the land office complained of. To comply with the request, Mr. Nelson, executive director of the Civil Liberties bureau of the Elks, last Saturday night issued a formal request to approximately 1,200 lodges and temples, in 40 states, to set forth the views of their membership, and to file a petition, through his bureau, with congress.

This action was paralleled by the Consolidated Race congress and Equal Rights league, which broadcast petitions to be returned to headquarters here for presentation to congress, covering various subjects. Congress was asked to enact enforcement legislation covering the 14th and 15th amendments to the Constitution. A separate petition was sent out for signatures requesting the president to abolish segregation of races in government departments by executive order.

### Aid for Education Asked

Federal aid to increase educational facilities for Race youth in the South, because of inadequate appropriations for common school education, was invoked. The petition carried endorsement of the Dyer anti-lynching bill. Congress was requested to withdraw military occupation of Haiti as "an indefensible violation of the international right of Haitians to maintain inviolate their national independence." Military aid rendered the United States by Haitians in the Revolutionary war was set forth to illustrate the "marked international ingratitude" of this country.

An address to the country, prepared by representatives of the merged Race organizations, urged the Race to "eschew and reject every proffered segregation, to fight in the courts every illegal racial separation, to contend for the repeal of every legalized segregation, to resist educational and residential segregations by protest, political reprisal and economic boycott. The government, it was stated, cannot fairly call for military service from those upon whom it practices segregation.

It was the general understanding among members of the committee of consolidated Race organizations that the next point of attack would be the office of the register of the treasury, where evidences of racial domination have been made a reality over 20 years.

Feb 1-1928



## WORLD WIDE MOVE STARTS IN NEW YORK

### Outgrowth Of Garvey Movement Aims For Progress In All Nations But Without Exodus

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—A new movement was started among colored citizens here Sunday that is expected to excell the once powerful Garvey movement in scope. The signal for the birth of this newest exponent of Democracy for all races of the world was sounded with the presentation of the charter of the Pioneer Negroes of the World, Inc, at a mass meeting in Mother Zion Church about 250 race citizens attended.

#### Progressive Aim

With a fervent spirit of patriotism pervading the atmosphere the little group of countrymen led by William L. Sherrill launched out upon what they hope will terminate into a powerful organ for the uplift and advancement of Negroes, not only in America, but over the entire world.

The organization, called an outgrowth of Marcus Garvey movement, does not sponsor a wholesale exodus of Negroes to Africa. It was declared. Its purpose as outlined is to make the Negro a better citizen economically, spiritually and mentally. It wished to advance the race so that it may enjoy only the privileges of citizenship but partake fully of the responsibility and obligations that citizenship entails.

#### Officer Elected

Speakers included Fred W. Dove, former Mayor of Freetown, Sierra Leone West Africa; Professor W. O. Smyer and Arthur A. Madison, a lawyer. George Ausby presided. Officers of the organization are William L. Sherrill, president and Wesley M. Polder, Secretary.

## 1927 RACE CONGRESS CONVENES

### Twelfth Annual Session Is Devoted To Discussion of Political Questions Pertaining To Race.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 7.—(Special). The twelfth annual session of the National Race Congress of America opened at Mount Carmel Baptist Church, Tuesday night. The session dealt with politics. National as well as international political questions were discussed.

Dr. W. H. Harris, president of the Congress opened the session and the sermon was preached by the Rev. M. H. Harris, pastor of the Waters Methodist Episcopal Church of Baltimore.

The principal political subject discussed created the Liberian political outlook. Dr. W. W. Matthews, secretary of foreign relations of the Zion church, discussed the recent ban on American religious enterprises there.

Dr. Solomon Porter Hood, former United States minister to Liberia discussed the political and economical outlook in Liberia. The Negro and the ballot, recent decisions of the Supreme Court and their influence on the Negro's political future, reapportionment in the Congress, the colored woman in politics and the international outlook for the darker races were the other subjects on the program to be treated by prominent speakers during the three-day session.

## The Civico National Association Organized

By LOUIS R. LAUTIER,  
Staff Correspondent.

Richmond, Va., March 2.—The Civico National, the first general civic association among colored people of a national scope, was organized here last Wednesday.

It is modeled after the Kiwanis International. A charter has been granted to it by the State of Virginia. The national organization will issue charters for the establishment of local clubs in any state or city in the United States.

The purposes of the organization are to foster the civic, the social and educational betterment of its members and of their communities, to aid in matters of charity and generally to engage in such other benevolent and charitable activities as are calculated to promote community welfare.

Its officers are James T. Carter, president, Richmond, Va.; Dr. H. J. Oliver, vice president, New York City; E. R. Merrick, vice president, Durham, N. C.; W. T. Gray, vice president, Richmond, Va.; M. A. Norrell, secretary-treasurer; S. W. Robinson, Jr., Richmond, Va.; Judge Edward W. Henry, Philadelphia, Pa.; Armond W. Scott, Washington, D. C.; James G. Lemons, Savannah, Ga., and J. M. Harrison, Norfolk, Va., trustees; Levi C. Brown, national organizer, Richmond, Va.; Charles T. Russell, Richmond, Va.; Dr. Leon A. Reid, Richmond, Va.; John T. Taylor, Richmond, Va.; Berry O. Kelley, Method, N. C.; John R. Hawkins, Washington, D. C.; William Lewis, Baltimore, Md.; J. M. G. Ramsey, Richmond, Va., and B. T. Kenney, Richmond, Va., directors.

The organizing of the Civico National was encouraged by the officers and members of the local Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Civitana and Monarch Clubs. They pledged 100 per cent support of the new movement.

## EQUAL RIGHTS LEAGUE SPONSORS JOINT CONVENTION--COMMITTEE TO CALL ON PRESIDENT

Boston, Mass., Feb. 7, 1927.

Through communications received at the national headquarters of the National Equal Rights League from Secretary J. W. Johnson, of the N. A. A. C. P. president Wm. H. Jernagin D. D., of the National Race Congress and President Wm. H. Jernagin D. D., of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs the League announces that these four national rights bodies are cooperating in the national observance of the birth anniversaries of Lincoln and Douglass at the national capital through the national mass race conference Feb. 12, 13 and 14, called by the League for the United Colored American Committee.

This is said to be the first national observance of Lincoln and Douglass Days by Afro-Americans. The Conference will frame petitions setting forth the just grievances and proscriptions suffered by the race deserving redress and present them to the President and to both houses of Congress, on Monday, the 14th, Douglass Day.

The Conference, open to all comers, and to which all four organizations invite all race members and delegates from all race bodies and churches, opens at noon of Saturday, the 12th Lincoln Day, in the 12th Street Y. M. C. A., when the 3 delegations will be selected to draft the three petitions. The Lincoln meeting will be at night.

On Sunday there will be a Pilgrimage to the Douglass Homestead and Exercises under the Women's Clubs.

Monday morning the delegations will report their draft of petitions to the Conference for adoption in the Metropolitan Baptist Church on R St., N. W., and proceed to White House and Congress. A signed petition for pardon of the rest of the Houston martyrs will also be presented to the president. Rep. Tinkham and Sen. Gillett, both of Massachusetts, will introduce the petitions into the House and Senate respectively. The conference will close with national exercises for Douglass in this church at night.



## A CALL FOR ANOTHER ALL EMBRACING PROGRAM FOR NEGROES

The Express notes that three of the leaders of the Durham group have issued a call for a meeting of Negro leaders in the month of December at Durham for the purpose of frankly facing the plight of the race as to health, business, religion, politics, insurance, education, and his status as a citizen. The call indicates that the meeting will be devoted to study and not to oratory.

The Express is well aware of the fine character and outstanding ability of the leaders of the Durham group and it feels that if any group of men was capable of making definite contribution to the welfare of the race in the way mentioned, this group is. But the question naturally arises as to the fate of all of the many agencies now in existence within the race for the improvement of the race along all of the lines mentioned and it rather questions the propriety of another conference in which all of these questions will be taken up at once. It would rather seem that separate organizations, probably now functioning, with a changed and more definite program, would serve better.

The present aspect of the affairs of the race indicates that there is grave need of the adoption of constructive programs in all of the national organizations of the race which claim to be devoted to the improvement of special lines of racial endeavor. And in this connection, the plight of The National Negro Business League comes to mind as an example. Here is an organization with tremendous possibilities which is apparently wasting its time in a procedure which, when taken at its best, seems rather in need of bolstering. Its program is indefinite and its procedure is a reflection on the type of men who head it and compose its official family. Likewise, it is possible to point to others with no more well defined direction. It is in the light of all of these facts that The Express would urge, that the minds of those who attend the Durham meeting be turned in the direction of making virile and serviceable the organizations already within the race. Such a course now appears to be the more profitable. The race needs improvement. But hard work in and on the organizations now in existence will do much to bring about that result.

## INTER-RACIAL HARMONY

To the Editor of The New York Times:

The unification and organization of the negro peoples of the world and their general uplift is the object of an organization recently formed in New York by West African and American colored leaders. The problem of racial conditions is the embracing matters more important than political and economic advantages. It goes deeply into the whole scheme of evolution and can be solved only in the light of humanity's experience and welfare.

The negro, the Occidental and the Oriental are representative of distinct racial and national types. Each has some faculty more accentuated than the other; each is necessary to the other, the sum total of the faculties representing the allied resources of mankind. To divide these resources by purely racial alliances would have but one result, the complete collapse of every uplifting and civilizing agency in existence. To attain unity it is necessary for each to give to the others some of its rights and privileges as well as to make constant efforts for the common welfare. The presence of the negro in America indicates an obligation on the part of the white race to share its accomplishments with the colored.

In the light of his racial history and in full realization of his limitations, the negro should see clearly where he falls behind the white standard of life, where he can further develop and expand that standard and make it his own. In their enthusiasm the colored leaders are apt to be hasty. Each step forward, if it is to be of permanent good to all, should be marked by the growth within the negro of a deepening sense of responsibility, of the realization of his part in the operation of nature's greatest law, equilibrium and harmony.

On their side the white peoples must meet that growth in a spirit of confidence and cooperation. Every bit of their experience must be used to help shape and build evenly the newly forming racial character. In this as in all other efforts at mutual aid and improvement the first step is the removing of all thought or suggestion of aloofness, suspicion and lack of altruistic motives from the minds of those in whose hands the leadership rests.

GEORGE A. R. GILFILLAN.

Philadelphia, Pa. Feb 9 1927.

# KELLY MILLER ADMITS SANHEDRIN IDEA WAS A FAILURE; TAKES BLAME But Money Raised, Less Expenses of Chicago Meet, Is In John R. Hawkin's Hands As Treasurer, He Asserts.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 27.—The question which has existed for some time on the part of Negroes in all parts of the country relative to the sudden flop of the Negro Sanhedrin idea fostered several years ago by Prof. Kelly Miller of Howard University, was explained in large part by Mr. Miller last week

through the column which he sends from here each week to various race newspapers in the country. The explanation seems to have been called forth chiefly by inquiry concerning the matter kept alive by Attorney R. L. Vann, editor of The Pittsburgh Courier.

Mr. Miller states five reasons why the execution of the idea failed, although he claims the idea itself will never die. The five reasons are: (1) Lack of funds; (2) The situation at Howard University; (3) Failure of existing organizations to give their support; (4) The proposition should have been made a business; (5) Prof. Miller blames his personal sagacity in not foreseeing these conditions.

"Mr. Robert L. Vann, editor of the Pittsburgh Courier, has more than once, in an offhand editorial way, made querulous reference to the apparently defunct Negro Sanhedrin. This organization was projected some three years ago with fair promise and good hope of success. I can recall no one who caught a fuller measure of its spirit and who was more ardently devoted to its aim and ideal than the redoubtable editor of The Pittsburgh Courier.

"The apparent collapse of the movement, it must be confessed, was a serious set-back, if not a permanent misfortune to the race. But the movement is not dead, but sleeping. The fundamental and vital principles involved in its inception can never die.

## Initial Meeting Was Held In Chicago.

"Three years ago, I thought that the time was ripe. I laid down the foundation and called the initial meeting in the city of Chicago. The meeting met with more than anticipated success. My basic principles were approved with scarcely the dotting of a 'i' or the crossing of a 't'. There seemed to be good prospects of its immediate fruition. Why then, it is reasonably asked, did the movement not continue to move?

## Lack Of Funds.

1. There was a lack of funds. Voluntary subscriptions were sufficient to defray the preliminary expenses of the first meeting, with a small surplus which is still in the

hands of the treasurer, Professor John R. Hawkins. There was no adequate provision to secure a meeting of the executive committee who lived in widely distant cities.

"There was no provision for adequate office force and clerk hire. The necessities of the movement required the full time of a highly qualified man and annual hire of not less than four thousand dollars. The whites could not be appealed to, as in case of the N. A. A. C. P. and the Urban League or the Y. M. C. A. This would defeat the spirit of the movement. No organization will carry itself, nor can it operate with purely voluntary service.

## Howard University.

"2. Very distressing conditions developed within Howard University, which engrossed much of the energies of the promoter of the Negro Sanhedrin to combat.

## Existing Organizations.

"3. Existing organizations, more or less conscious of their self-sufficiency followed the Negri Sanhedrin, as Peter followed the Saviour—afar off. There was not that whole hearted proffer of assistance and support on the part of many, who failed to fully understand that the Sanhedrin was not come to destroy their function, but to fulfill.

## Must Be a Business.

"4. I immediately found that so great a project could not be promoted as a duty, but it must be made a business. It is absolutely necessary to employ men of the comprehension and breadth of James Weldon Johnson, Eugene Kinckle Jones, C. H. Tobias and George H. Haynes to do the work that needed to be done.

"White men have rendered a great service by showing us how our own racial affairs must be managed. There was no such provision; therefore the movement did not move.

## Foundation Remains.

"5. I am personally willing to take to myself all of the blame which any one may be disposed to impute. The apparent failure stands greatly to the discredit of my personal sagacity to safeguard all of

these sagacity to safeguard all of these unforeseen contingencies. But take hold of the work and carry it on and carry it up? The hour of the Negro Sanhedrin Redivivus is at hand—shall it be revived? Who says so?"



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The Express notes that three of the leaders of the Durham group have issued a call for a meeting of Negro leaders in the month of December at Durham for the purpose of frankly facing the plight of the race as to health, business, religion, politics, insurance, education, and his status as a citizen. The call indicates that the meeting will be devoted to study and not to oratory.

The Express is well aware of the fine character and outstanding ability of the leaders of the Durham group and it feels that if any group of men was capable of making definite contribution to the welfare of the race in the way mentioned, this group is. But the question naturally arises as to the fate of all of the many agencies now in existence within the race for the improvement of the race along all of the lines mentioned and of other questions the propriety of another conference in which all of these questions will be taken up at once. It would rather seem that separate organizations, probably now functioning, with a changed and more definite program, would serve better.

The present aspect of the affairs of the race indicates that there is grave need of the adoption of constructive programs in all of the national organizations of the race which claim to be devoted to the improvement of special lines of racial endeavor. And in this connection, the plight of The National Negro Business League comes to mind as an example. Here is an organization with tremendous possibilities which is apparently wasting its time in a procedure which, when taken at its best, seems rather in need of bolstering. Its program is indefinite and its procedure is a reflection on the type of men who head it and compose its official family. Likewise, it is possible to point to others with no more well defined direction. It is in the light of all of these facts that The Express would urge, that the minds of those who attend the Durham meeting be turned in the direction of making virile and serviceable the organizations already within the race. Such a course now appears to be the more profitable. The race needs improvement. But hard work in and on the organizations now in existence will do much to bring about that result.

## INTER-RACIAL HARMONY

To the Editor of The New York Times:

The unification and organization of the negro peoples of the world and their general uplift is the object of an organization recently formed in New York by West African and American colored leaders. *W. A. A. C. P.* The problem of racial conditions is embracing matters more important than political and economic advantages. It goes deeply into the whole scheme of evolution and can be solved only in the light of humanity's experience and welfare. *W. A. A. C. P.*

In the light of his racial history and in full realization of his limitations, the negro should see clearly where he falls behind the white standard of life, where he can further develop and expand that standard and make it his own. In their enthusiasm the colored leaders are apt to be hasty. Each step forward, if it is to be of permanent good to all, should be marked by the growth within the negro of a deepening sense of responsibility, of the realization of his part in the operation of nature's greatest law, equilibrium and harmony.

On their side the white peoples must meet that growth in a spirit of confidence and cooperation. Every bit of their experience must be used to help shape and build evenly the newly forming racial character. In this as in all other efforts at mutual aid and improvement the first step is the removing of all thought or suggestion of aloofness, suspicion and lack of altruistic motives from the minds of those in whose hands the leadership rests.

GEORGE A. R. GILFILLAN.  
Philadelphia, Pa. Feb. 9 1927.

## KELLY MILLER ADMITS

## SANHEDRIN IDEA WAS A

## FAILURE. TAKES BLAME But Money Raised, Less Expenses of Chicago Meet, Is In John R. Hawkin's Hands As Treasurer, He Asserts.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 27.—The question which has existed for some time on the part of Negroes in all parts of the country relative to the sudden flop of the Negro Sanhedrin idea fostered several years ago by Kelly Miller of Howard University, was explained in a large part by Mr. Miller last week through the column which he sends from here each week to various race newspapers in the country. The explanation seems to have been called forth chiefly by inquiry concerning the matter kept alive by Attorney R. L. Vann, editor of The Pittsburgh Courier.

Mr. Miller states five reasons why the execution of the idea failed, although he claims the idea itself will never die. The five reasons are: (1) Lack of funds; (2) The situation at Howard University; (3) Failure of existing organizations to give their support; (4) The proposition should have been made a business; (5) Prof. Miller blames his personal sagacity in not foreseeing these conditions.

"Mr. Robert L. Vann, editor of the Pittsburgh Courier, has more than once, in an offhand editorial way, made querulous reference to the apparently defunct Negro Sanhedrin. This organization was projected some three years ago with a fair promise and good hope of success. I can recall no one who caught a fuller measure of its spirit and who was more ardently devoted to its aim and ideal than the redoubtable editor of The Pittsburgh Courier.

"The apparent collapse of the movement, it must be confessed, was a serious setback, if not a permanent misfortune to the race. But the movement is not dead, but sleeping. The fundamental and vital principles involved in its inception can never die.

## Initial Meeting Was Held In Chicago.

"Three years ago, I thought that the time was ripe. I laid down the foundation and called the initial meeting in the city of Chicago. The meeting met with more than anticipated success. My basic principles were approved with scarcely the dotting of a 'y' or the crossing of a 't.' There seemed to be good prospects of its immediate fruition. Why then, it is reasonably asked, did the movement not continue to move?

## Lack Of Funds.

1. There was a lack of funds. Voluntary subscriptions were sufficient to defray the preliminary expenses of the first meeting, with a small surplus which is still in the

hands of the treasurer, Professor John R. Hawkins. There was no adequate provision to secure a meeting of the executive committee who lived in widely distant cities.

"There was no provision for adequate office force and clerk hire. The necessities of the movement required the full time of a highly qualified man and annual hire of not less than four thousand dollars. The whites could not be appealed to, as in case of the N. A. A. C. P. and the Urban League or the Y. M. C. A. This would defeat the spirit of the movement. No organization will carry itself, nor can it operate with purely voluntary service.

## Howard University.

"2. Very distressing conditions developed within Howard University, which engrossed much of the energies of the promoter of the Negro Sanhedrin to combat.

## Existing Organizations.

"3. Existing organizations, more or less conscious of their self-sufficiency followed the Negro Sanhedrin, as Peter followed the Saviour—afar off. There was not that whole hearted proffer of assistance and support on the part of many, who failed to fully understand that the Sanhedrin was not come to destroy their function, but to fulfill.

## Must Be a Business.

"4. I immediately found that so great a project could not be promoted as a duty, but it must be made a business. It is absolutely necessary to employ men of the comprehension and breadth of James Weldon Johnson, Eugene Kinckle Jones, C. H. Tobias and George H. Haynes to do the work that needed to be done.

"White men have rendered a great service by showing us how our own racial affairs must be managed. There was no such provision; therefore the movement did not move.

## Foundation Remains.

"5. I am personally willing to take to myself all of the blame which any one may be disposed to impute. The apparent failure stands greatly to the discredit of my personal sagacity to safeguard all of

these sagacity to safeguard all of these unforeseen contingencies. But now what of the future? Suppose I should fully efface myself. "The foundation remains awaiting, says so?"



# EQUAL RIGHTS LEAGUE SENDS REPLY TO WORK

BOSTON, MASS., Nov. 9, 1927.—

Complying with the request of Secretary of the Interior, Dr. Hubert Work, the delegation of the newly merged National Equal Rights League and Race Congress of America which had a lively audience at the Department Saturday, October 29th, have sent to the Secretary their protest and particulars as to segregation in the General Land Office and are awaiting a reply or invitation to another audience.

The reply was drafted and dispatched from the League's National headquarters here by Wm. M. Trotter, spokesman of the delegation. It specializes on the case of Miss Gretta McRae of Colorado, Secretary Work's home state, who is excluded from the room of the women stenographers, seated in a room with colored men only, ordered to send her work from dictation to the room, assigned to take dictation from colored clerks only, and thus limited as to promotion and rating.

It is charged from the verbatim language of the Land Office that the color line is overtly drawn as to not assigning any stenographers to colored clerks except Miss McRae, also that the colored men are in rooms by themselves and when not are put in adjacent seats.

The text in part was as follows:

"You questioned our statement as to facts and tried to reach Commissioner Sprye of the Land Office as to the facts. Finding that he had gone home, you requested that we submit our claims and requests in writing, but not before your belittling of our opposition to any color line classification as to work, assignment of workers or to workers as well as to placement at work.

"Hence, herein, our anti-segregation protest.

## The Demand

"In general the National Equal Rights League and Race Congress of America, Inc., together with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and I. B. P. O. of Elks of the World protest

against and ask for the removal of all classification of workers, all assignment of workers or to workers, and all placement at work along the line of race and color.

As Americans of African extraction and descent, ever loyal, equal under constitution and law, we demand as of our right that there be the same absence of classification, assignment and placement along the line of racial extraction for government workers of African extraction as now obtains for such workers of European, of Britanic, of Asiatic, of Semitic, of Celtic, of Teutonic, of Alpinic, of Latinic, of Scandanavic, of Slavic extraction or descent, all of which extractions make up the democratized "melting pot" of a free and equal, unified American citizenship. Let there not remain in the Interior Department anything that even smacks of race or color segregation.

## The Facts of the Segregation

"We thus make demand for equality, under the existence of a sole colored stenographer seated outside the stenographic section room, now one of many stenographers, with even her work never sent there until she protested segregation, nor any proposal made to put her there until she protested the consequent necessary loss in quantity of work of the sending of it there, with no provision for a rating so as to recognize her acquired qualifications of "general supervision" and "personal discretion" which admitted qualifications should be there honored.

"Yours for equality of citizenship,  
(Signed)

WILLIAM MONROE TROTTER,  
"Secretary.